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DE RUEHWL #0281 2662247
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 232247Z SEP 09
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0145

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 000281

SIPDIS
STATE FOR PM/DTCC - BLUE LANTERN COORDINATOR AND EAP/ANP

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ETTC](#) [NZ](#)
SUBJECT: BLUE LANTERN LEVEL 3: POST-SHIPMENT END-USE CHECK FOR CASE
050035123

REF: 09 STATE 76933; 2006 BLUE LANTERN GUIDEBOOK

¶1. In response to reftel, PolOff conducted a Blue Lantern post shipment check of Helicopters Otago, Ltd on September 10, 2009. This helicopter rescue company is a legitimate business operating under contract with the New Zealand government's Accident Compensation Corporation, and it has land and sea rescue responsibility for the southern half of New Zealand's south island. PolOff witnessed a signed contract and a current business license.

¶2. Helicopters Otago, Ltd is home-based in Dunedin, NZ and has been in business for 20 years. Graeme Gale is its sole proprietor. This company uses night vision devices (nvd) primarily for night rescue and medical evacuation operations over land. Management understands the restrictions on United States Munitions List items, especially the prohibition against unauthorized re-transfer and re-export.

¶3. All nvds are kept in a safe within a locked facility when not in use, and only pilots and paramedics who are trained to use them have access to the safe. PolOff inspected the Dunedin facility and verified that six ITT Model F4949F, Gen III ANVIS 9 Aviator Night Vision Goggles (serial numbers: 25252, 25251, 21620, 21621, 11922, and 11925) plus associated hardware were present.

¶4. Helicopters Otago is the only civilian ITT certified calibration site in New Zealand, so nvds are sent to Dunedin from around the country for 180 day calibrations.

CLARKE